

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-02 ISO-00 AID-05 HA-05 IO-13 DODE-00 CIAE-00
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AFR/ESA-VANDERSON (DRAFT)
-----128871 251844Z /64

R 242127Z JAN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY GABORONE
INFO AMEMBASSY MASERU
AMEMBASSY MBABANE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, BC

SUBJECT: VISIT OF AFRICARE DELEGATION

I. AFRICARE, A PRIVATE VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATION WITH
CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE IN SAHEL RELIEF, RECENTLY PRESENTED
TO AID A PROPOSAL FOR ASSISTING THE GOVERNMENT OF BOTSWANA
IN THE FIELD OF REFUGEE RELIEF. LIKELY AREAS OF AFRICARE
ACTIVITY TO CARRY OUT SUCH ASSISTANCE COULD INCLUDE
MEDICAL CARE, ELEMENTARY EDUCATION AND SANITATION SERVICES.

2. TO SURVEY THE SITUATION, AFRICARE HAS PROPOSED
SENDING A THREE-PERSON TEAM INCLUDING A MEDICAL DOCTOR
AND AN EDUCATOR TO VISIT BOTSWANA EARLY IN FEBRUARY TO
EVALUATE PROSPECTS FOR (AND PERHAPS DEVELOP SPECIFIC
ELEMENTS OF) A PROJECT. AMBASSADOR NORLAND MET WITH
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AFRICARE PRESIDENT C. PAYNE LUCAS ON JANUARY 19 AND
CONCURRED IN THE DESIRABILITY OF THE PROPOSED VISIT
PROVIDED THAT THREE POINTS GUIDE THE DELEGATION IN ITS
WORK:

(A) IN ANY MEETINGS WITH GOB OFFICIALS THE POSSIBILITY
SHOULD BE LEFT OPEN OF ASSISTING NON-REFUGEE RELATED

PROJECTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF BATSWANA. GOB IS INCREASINGLY SENSITIVE TO GREATER WORLD INTEREST IN PROBLEMS OF

REFUGEES THAN IN PROBLEMS OF THEIR HOSTS. NOTE: AFRICARE HAS INDICATED IT IS PREPARED TO CONSIDER DIRECT DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS FOR BOTSWANA AS WELL AS REFUGEE ASSISTANCE.

(B) CLOSE COORDINATION SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT WITH UNHCR, BOTSWANA COUNCIL FOR REFUGEES (BCR) AND OTHER VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS ON THE SCENE.

(C) THE DELEGATION SHOULD BE PREPARED TO UNDERTAKE SPECIFIC ACTIONS RATHER THAN MERELY GATHER INFORMATION IN ORDER TO AVOID SIMPLY ADDING TO THE LARGE NUMBER OF VISITORS AND OBSERVERS WHO COME TO SEE THE REFUGEE CAMPS. SPECIFICALLY, IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT AN OBJECTIVE OF THE VISIT BE TO ASSIST IN MEETING NEEDS FOR MEDICINES, DRUGS AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES, WHICH HAVE BEEN LACKING AT TIMES IN THE CAMPS.

3. THE AFRICARE DELEGATION WILL CALL AT EMBASSY GABORONE FOR DISCUSSIONS AS SOON AS CONVENIENT AFTER ARRIVAL. FURTHER DETAILS CONCERNING THEIR EXACT SCHEDULE WILL BE MADE BY SEPTTEL. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: REFUGEE RELIEF, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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